

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

November 5, 1961

Dear Governor Foss:

My best wishes to the National Society for a stimulating and successful annual convention. May your meeting fulfill its purpose of breaking down the barriers that impede equal opportunity for our Nation's handicapped citizens.

I am particularly pleased that your opening session will unveil a most promising development for equality for the handicapped -- the project of drafting standards to eliminate architectural barriers that have prevented the handicapped from partaking fully in life around them.

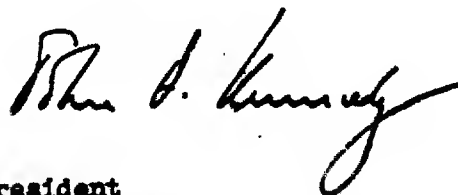
I congratulate the National Society and the President's Committee on Employment of the Physically Handicapped, joint sponsors of the worthy project; the American Standards Association, under whose auspices the standards were prepared; and all the other organizations and agencies which participated in the work.

Yet, we must remember that standards remain nothing more than words and phrases, unless they are translated into action. To serve the purpose for which they were created, they must be adopted. They must be put into use in designing new public buildings and in remodeling old.

The acceptance and adoption of these standards now become the business of citizens and governmental authorities everywhere. I am sure they will rise to the challenge.

I can further assure you that the agencies and departments of the Federal Government that come under the jurisdiction of my office will give full support to this worthy project.

Sincerely,



Honorable Joseph J. Foss, President
National Society for Crippled Children
and Adults

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